

## *Melanargia russiae* Esper from Greece

By John G. COUTSIS\*

While sorting out lepidoptera collected by members of a zoological expedition to Mt. Timfi, Ipiros, north-western Greece, I had the good fortune to discover a couple of male *M. russiae* (Plt. XVI figs. 5 & 6), captured on 23rd July 1978 on the high plateau near the summit of Mt. Timfi at an altitude of about 1800m. The area where the butterflies were captured is above tree line and is of calcareous nature.

These records are, to my knowledge, the first ones of their kind for Greece and the southernmost for the Balkan Peninsula. Previous records of *russiae* from the Balkans refer mostly to the mountainous area around lake Ochrid, in Yugoslavian Macedonia and in Albania. The Grecian population of *russiae* perhaps represents an extension of the faunistic elements of Albania and southern Yugoslavia, but more material is needed before drawing safe conclusions.

My thanks are due to the members of the expedition to Mt. Timfi, who had the kindness to offer me these butterflies, which are now deposited in the author's collection.

### References

- Higgins, L. G. and Riley, N. D., 1973. *A Field Guide to the Butterflies of Britain and Europe*. Collins, London.  
 Thurner, J., 1964. *Die Lepidopteren fauna Jugoslavisch Mazedoniens*. I. *Rhopalocera, Grypocera und Noctuidae*. Prirodonaucen Musej Skopje.

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EARLY OCCURRENCE OF LEPIDOPTERA ON THE ISLE OF CANNA IN 1980. — The spring of 1980 was the finest and warmest I can remember. In consequence species were observed unusually early *C. pamphilus* on May 14th and *B. selene* on May 17th. *Selene* is increasing in clearings of the plantations made here since 1956, and now sometimes appears in my garden. *Z. purpuralis* appeared in the colony on the cliffs of Sanday as early as June 13th. On the other hand, so far (18th July) I have not yet seen *Z. filipendulae* at all. The fine weather in April and May favoured the larvae of *V. urticae*, which is now frequently seen, as is *A. aglaia*; I can remember years when these butterflies were very scarce indeed here. — J. L. CAMPBELL, Isle of Canna, Hebrides.

THE VESTAL: RHODOMETRA SACRARIA L. IN SUSSEX. — I took a single specimen of this migrant moth in my m.v. trap at this address on 7th August 1980. — P. F. WALLEY, 9, Long Acre Close, Eastbourne, E. Sussex.

ERRATUM. — In "*Precis archesia ugandensis* (Lep.: Nymphalidae): a New Subspecies" by L. McLeod, on Table 1, facing p. 110 of the April/May *Record*, under the heading of Entebbe, Uganda, the forms of *P. a. ugandensis* should read: f. *pelasgis* common and f. *semitypica* rare. — Editor.